
THE ASSOCIATION OF OHIO LONGRIFLE COLLECTORS



FOR THE STUDY AND PRESERVATION
OF THE OHIO MUZZLELOADING RIFLE

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Vol. XXXI Number 1 February, 2008



E. J. Wolfgang



33rd A.O.L.R.C. Marietta Exhibit April 4, 5, 6, 2008



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President's Letter



2007 is gone and it is now almost time for the 33rd Annual Marietta Exhibit. The past year was a very successful one for our organization. On a serious note, however, Warren Offenberger resigned from the post of Editor of our Newsletter. As virtually all of you know, Warren has been the only Editor of the Newsletter, and the high quality of both the format and the content is due to his attention to accuracy and his striving for perfection. Warren will be greatly missed and certainly has set a standard that will be hard for the new Editor to maintain. Please stop and say a simple "Thank you" to Warren for his many contributions to the AOLRC.

The Board of Directors has asked Ron Yerian to step in as Editor. Ron has a bit of experience in writing and has agreed to try to keep up the quality of the Newsletter. He will need the cooperation of the membership in submitting pictures, articles, and research material for publication. The Board has agreed to give a free Annual Membership to anyone who submits material for publication in the Newsletter, so please dust off the articles that many of you have been working on and send them to Ron.

The August picnic at Centerburg was a grand success again this year. The food was both plentiful and excellent, thanks to the ladies and all who contributed. The folks shooting seemed to have a great time, and the joking and ribbing was at least as accurate as the shooting. The old rifles are still able to hit the bulls eye if the old eyes can get them pointed in the right direction. I brought an old double barrel shotgun that I had wanted to shoot for years and under the guiding hands of Karl Kuehn successfully shot it several times. Nobody else seemed willing to try so I guess that I won the 1st shotgun match.

The Newark Show in October was the best one yet in terms of attendance and quality of longrifles presented both for viewing and for sale. Every available table was taken. Jim

Claggett did an outstanding job of organizing and publicizing this event. I think that everyone in the vicinity of Newark received at least one flyer. I would also like to thank Tom Oakes for the bright yellow signs advertising the show. They were easy to spot and looked great.

The AOLRC also had an exhibit at the Ohio Gun Collectors Association's January Show in Wilmington that was very well received. Larry Bryner's Vincent Rifles were the highlight of the presentation, and the other twenty or so rifles provided by Tom Oakes, Mark Herman, and myself offered a great cross section of Ohio rifles and makers. The exposure that the AOLRC gets from these exhibits helps in book sales, membership applications, and recognition of the fine quality of Ohio's early gunmakers.

Our 33rd Marietta Exhibit will be held on April 4, 5, and 6. Members wishing to display should contact me for table reservations. The Marietta exhibit annually showcases Ohio's finest longrifles, and without your time, effort, and expense in presenting your collections to the membership and the public this event could not take place. Thanks to all of you for your participation. The Sons of the American Revolution is sponsoring, a ten day historical celebration that coincides with our show this year. They have offered to include the AOLRC Exhibit in their advertising, which should help our attendance by the public.

The featured gunmaker this year will be Jerman Jordan of Ross County. If you have some of his work please contact me at 614/837-1591 to have it displayed. Thanks for a great year and see you in Marietta.

Rod

(Addendum) It was recently brought to my attention that Bill Walker, a resident of Magadore, Ohio, and a longtime member, recently passed away. He was a great supporter of the AOLRC and will be sorely missed.

33rd Marietta Exhibit

As in the past we are inviting anyone who has documented Ohio made rifles produced prior to 1900 to display them. In order to avoid any confusion as far as space allotment is concerned, we are asking interested parties to ***please let us know how many tables they will need.*** In doing this the association will be able to provide adequate table accommodations on a first come basis. ***So please be prompt. Mail table requests to*** Rod Frazer, 11815 Streamside Drive, Pickerington, OH 43147.

Remember the ***major portion*** of your display must consist of antique Ohio made rifles and accessories. Ohio made contemporary rifles must not exceed more than ***10% of your total display.*** This rule will be strictly enforced and all contemporary rifles must be so marked.

Set up of exhibits will begin at 5:00 p.m. Friday, April 4.

BANQUET

Our annual membership meeting and banquet will be held April 5th at 8:00 p.m. in the Lafayette Hotel. This meeting will be preceded by hospitality hour at 6:00 p.m. and a banquet at 7:00 p.m. Dinner will consist of prime rib, stuffed chicken breast or maple glazed pork loin and all the trimmings with tickets costing \$20.00 each payable to the secretary ***no later than March 28.*** Because we are expecting larger crowds than normal, banquet space will be limited and will be on a first come first serve basis. Please get your reservation in early.

LODGING AND ACCOMMODATIONS

The Lafayette Motor Hotel has been generous enough to provide exhibit space for our show. They have also offered our membership a generous discount on their room accommodations. ***We strongly urge our membership to take advantage of this special rate*** and the fact that the show, the banquet, and the membership meeting will be held in the same location. For reservations telephone 740/373-5522. Be sure to mention that you are coming to the AOLRC Exhibit.

For security reasons, no rifles may be brought into the exhibit hall after 9:00 a.m. Saturday, or leave before 3:00 p.m. Sunday, unless prior arrangements have been made with the sergeant-at-arms.

Also, no rifles may be brought into the exhibit hall during public hours without first getting permission from the sergeant-at-arms.

Friday, April 4

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Set up for exhibit.
7:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. Reception for all exhibitors and members. Cash bar and hors d'oeuvres.

Saturday, April 5

8:00 a.m. Exhibit hall opens to exhibitors and members only.
9:00 a.m. Show opens to public.
5:00 p.m. Exhibit closes.
6:00 p.m. Hospitality hour.
7:00 p.m. Banquet.
8:00 p.m. Membership meeting. Entertainment.

Sunday, April 6

9:00 a.m. Exhibit hall opens to the public.
3:00 p.m. Exhibit closes.



PLEASE NOTE

Our featured gunsmith this year will be Jerman Jordan of Ross County. As per last year the hotel will be providing glass cases for this exhibit. We will fill these on a first come basis. Please bring your Jordan rifles this year for the public and the membership to see.

Edward J. Wolfgang

Columbiana, Ohio

In the middle of August my husband, Randy D. Brown, was looking at muzzleloaders online at the Gunrunner Auction. He saw this .32 caliber half-stock muzzleloader that was engraved with 'E. J. Wolfgang, Columbiana, Ohio' on the lock plate. The seller stated that it might be a reproduction, but if so, an early one. We checked the numerous gunsmith books that we own but were unable to find any Wolfgang. Randy then asked me to find out if there had been a gunsmith in Columbiana by that name, and when.

This wasn't a problem because I have been doing genealogical research and answering queries for the Columbiana County Chapter of the Ohio Genealogical Society for the past twenty years.

When I confirmed that EJW had been in Columbiana by 1870 and died there in 1906, Randy decided to bid on the rifle.

After winning the bid and picking up the rifle he called an acquaintance, William Wolfgang, who lives a few miles away, to ask him if his family originally came from Columbiana. It turned out that EJW was Bill's great-great-grandfather and he wanted to see the rifle. He came right over!

Later I was able to do further research and this is what I found: Edward John Wolfgang was born 12 January 1843 in Carroll County,



E. J. Wolfgang

MD to Jacob and Mary Ann (Miller) Wolfgang, both born just across the state line in York County, PA. I have checked Jacob's parents, brothers, and siblings but found no other gunsmiths in EJW's family. I have also looked for nearby gunsmiths in every location that EJW lived, but found none. I do not know where he learned the gunsmith trade.

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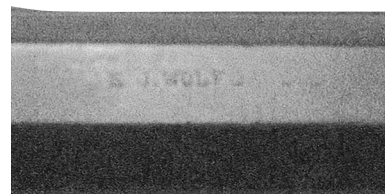
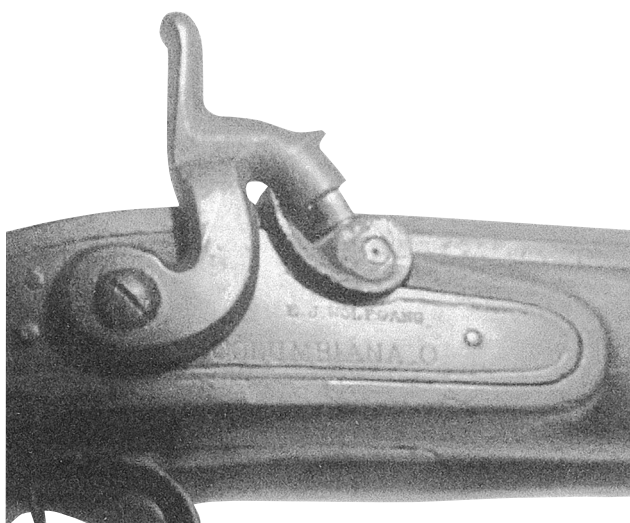
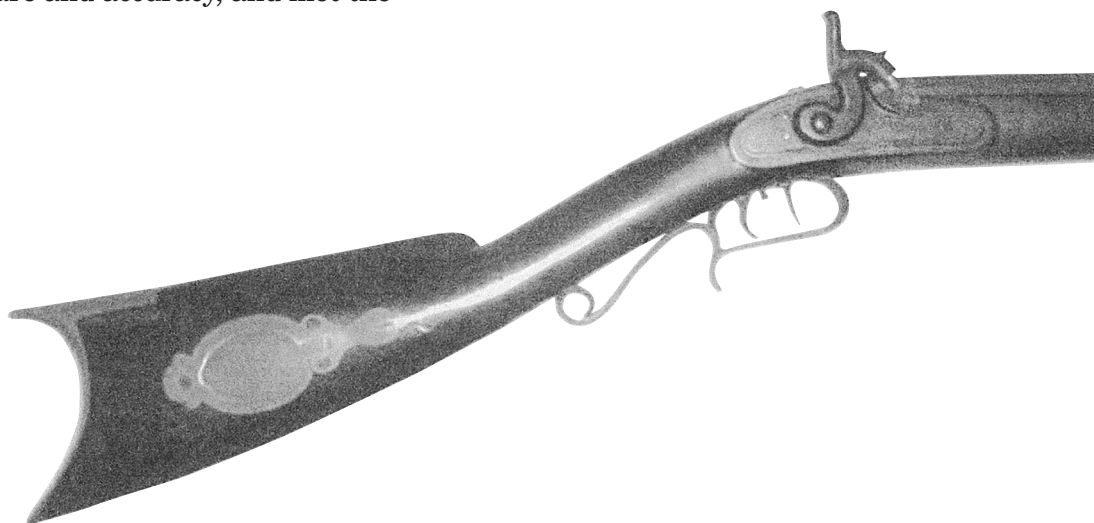


But EJW must have been one of those enterprising men who was a 'jack-of-all-trades' because I have found him listed in the various censuses as an apprentice shoemaker, a miller, a sewing machine agent, and a machinist. In *The History of Columbiana, Ohio*, 1912 written by EJW's son, Chauncey Wolfgang, EJW is referred to as a civil engineer. The full write-up, which included his photo, is as follows:

“On June 5th, 1902, E.J. Wolfgang, a civil engineer of Columbiana, and a crew of three men, accompanied by the promoters of the venture, John H. Ruhiman, Asa Jones, and the Long brothers, began the preliminary survey of the prospective course of the Youngstown & Southern Railway. The profile drafting was finished with great care and accuracy, and met the

promoters' most sanguine expectations. The final route at last accepted followed his survey with but few variations. Mr. Wolfgang in 1878 opened up the first gun and sewing machine repair shop in Columbiana in Joel Morlan's building located on the southwest corner of Main Street and Spring Alley. He located here in 1860, coming from his father's home in Maryland, and soon after began the milling business in the Mr. John Nold grist mill, about two miles west of town.”

EJW married Elizabeth Keister sometime after applying for a marriage license in Columbiana County on 25 September 1865. It was not returned so I suspect that they were married in Mahoning County and the return was filed there.



Because there is no existing Columbiana, Ohio newspaper for the time period that EJW died, I had to look elsewhere. On Thursday, 30 August 1906 "The Buckeye State" published in Lisbon printed this:

"Edward J. Wolfgang, a prominent citizen of Columbiana, died at his home there early Sunday morning after an illness of about a year with paralysis of the tongue and throat.

Mr. Wolfgang was born near York, Pa., but across the Maryland line, 63 years ago, and came to Columbiana about 45 years ago. In 1865 he was united in marriage to Elizabeth Keister of Columbiana, who survives him with two sons. Warren W. and Chauncey E. Wolfgang, both of Columbiana. He is also survived by a number of brothers and sisters, those in this vicinity being Noah Wolfgang of near Leetonia, and Jacob Wolfgang and Mrs. Benjamin Fellnogle of North Lima.

Funeral services were held at the house Tuesday afternoon at one o'clock, Rev. A.M. Carr of the M.E. church in Columbiana officiating. Interment was in the Columbiana cemetery."

I have not found a probate for EJW in Columbiana County, but was able to find EJW's first advertisement in the 24 August 1876 "Columbiana Independent Register" for his gun and sewing machine repair shop, which is included here.

The walnut half-stocked rifle that Randy bought has an overall length of 49½". The barrel is 33⅛" long and .945" across the flats with 6 groove rifling. The bore is .318".

We are looking for other rifles built by EJW and more information about his gunshop. Bill Wolfgang is especially interested in finding another rifle.

Pat McArtor



THE REGISTER.
E. S. HOLLOWAY, Editor.

THURSDAY, AUG. 24, 1876

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

Traveler's Register.
 On and after Monday, Nov. 21st, trains will leave Columbianna station as follows:

GOING WEST.	
Express.....	4 11 a m
Mail.....	11 48 a m
Express.....	4 26 p m
Express.....	7 57 p m
Local.....	12 42 p m
GOING EAST.	
Express.....	9 53 a m
Mail.....	12 42 p m
Express.....	4 48 p m
Express.....	11 48 a m
Local.....	8 15 a m

†Does not stop.


CARRIAGES.
Posters.
Envelopes.
Circulars.
Bill Heads.
Note Heads.
Letter Heads.
Statements

executed in sink style on short notice at the REGISTER office.

Subscribers for the REGISTER.
School Books at D. Esterly's.
 Additional local items on fourth page.
 Look-over for the big gun at E. J. Wolfgang's.

We call attention to the advertisement of E. J. Wolfgang's in this issue, and invite all persons wishing to purchase a gun, revolver, ammunition &c., or having anything in that line to repair, to give him a call before going elsewhere. He is one among the best workmen in this part of the country, he having considerable experience in that direction. He will be found in Thos. Entriken's building north of public square, where he will be ready at all times to do your work at reasonable rates. Satisfaction guaranteed. Give him a call.

E. J. WOLFGANG



GUNSMITH.

I AM now ready to do all kinds of repairs on Guns, Revolvers and Sewing Machines. I will also keep on hand Guns, Revolvers, Ammunition of all kind, and supplies for Gunsmiths.

I guarantee satisfaction. Call at Mel Morlan's room, Main Street, where I am located. Respectfully,
 E. J. WOLFGANG,
 n21-1r. Columbiana, O

Muzzle Blasts

OFFICIAL ORGAN OF THE NATIONAL MUZZLE LOADING RIFLE ASSOCIATION

VOLUME V

PORTSMOUTH, OHIO, JULY, 1944

NUMBER 11

Uncle George Brammer "Gentleman—Gunsmith"

By HERMAN P. DEAN

The curtain has dropped on the gunsmithing activities of one of the few surviving workmen who employed the old-time methods in making and repairing firearms.

I refer to my good friend Uncle George Brammer, of Chesapeake, Ohio, known to hundreds of the readers of this magazine. To all of these there will be a certain sadness in the news that Uncle George has quit the bench due to the infirmities of his advanced age. But there is a brighter side to the picture, for Uncle George has been a great trooper in the muzzle loading gun show for more than six decades. He has turned in a marvelous performance and has contributed mightily to the show. And his name has been graven on the hearts of a legion of friends as well as on the locks and barrels of hundreds of fine old muzzle loaders that are doing proud service from Maine to the Gulf, from the Golden Gate to the sidewalks of New York.

Antique arms collectors, students and connoisseurs will join hands with those whose primary interest is in the shooting of flintlock and percussion rifles and pistols in paying homage to this gentleman of the old school, for Uncle George's interests were varied. He loved old arms for their historic significance; he studied the mechanical progress of arms through the years, he has been a muzzle loading shooter for more years than most of us can remember. But in addition to all that he possessed a fine capacity for friendship and topmost on the asset side of his life's ledger are not the fine guns he has made or repaired, but rather the number of friends he has accumulated along the way. In the evening of life he likes to recount these, and he treasures them a great deal more than any other objectives he has achieved.

It is my good fortune that only the Ohio river separates the village of Chesapeake, Ohio, and the city of Huntington, West Virginia, for as consequence the distance between my office and the Brammer gun shop is not more than a mile. Over the years I have turned to this little yellowed frame structure at the rear of the Brammer residence in Chesapeake with something of the same reverence that saintly persons approach a shrine; for in fact Uncle George's little shop was something of a shrine to me, a retreat from the hurry and worry of business affairs, a place where I could forget balance sheets and business problems and revel in the atmosphere of old guns and smithing tools and converse with the man who was master of this little sanctuary. I treasure these visits now and I shall probably treasure them even more as years pass and I look back in retrospect to these times of quiet communion with a truly old-time gunsmith. Sometimes we need the perspective that only years can give in order to properly evaluate the experiences of life. In the evening of life when I sit in front of a crackling log fire and mentally classify and appraise my really worthwhile experiences, I know that my

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UNCLE GEORGE BRAMMER

(Continued from page 1)

visits with my friend George Brammer, the gunsmith, will rate high in the list of things I shall remember with most satisfaction.

Only last week I took a flintlock over to my friend Brammer. The mainspring was weak and the sear was worn but Uncle George made a new spring and a new sear and the lock is in good working order again. This is perhaps the last repair job that he will ever do for me, or for anyone else, for it was on this occasion that he confided in me the news that he was seriously ill and that his doctor had said it was imperative that he quit work. This was a blow to Uncle George, for he has always been an industrious man. He is eighty-three years old and nearing the end of the trail; he told me that he had decided to dispose of his tools and equipment and return the many unfilled orders he had on hand.

That visit will not be my last, for Uncle George is still able to sit in his rocking chair at home and talk guns. These visits I anticipate with much pleasure and I hope that they may be of some help to my old friend in passing the hours with a kindred soul before the final curtain. "Red" Farris, the efficient mainspring of *Muzzle Blasts*,

knows something of my friendship with Brammer and he has asked me to contribute these flowers-to-the-living and to tell this muzzle loading gun fraternity something of the life of my old friend.

On the occasion of my visit last week Uncle George told me with what reluctance he had returned his unfilled orders; he told me of the inquiries he had received from Maine, California, Kansas, Texas, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, Minnesota, Pennsylvania and New York,—inquiries from front-feed enthusiasts who wanted to know whether he would freshen out a barrel, restock a treasured old arm, or put in good shooting order some old wreck whose only current value was sentimental attachment. He inquired about the welfare of some of our mutual friends and acquaintances, mentioning Farris, Bull Ramsey, Jim Converse, Keith Neal and others. To the very last he will think guns and talk guns and enjoy in reverie his associations with the gun-loving men he has met and learned to respect and love over the years.

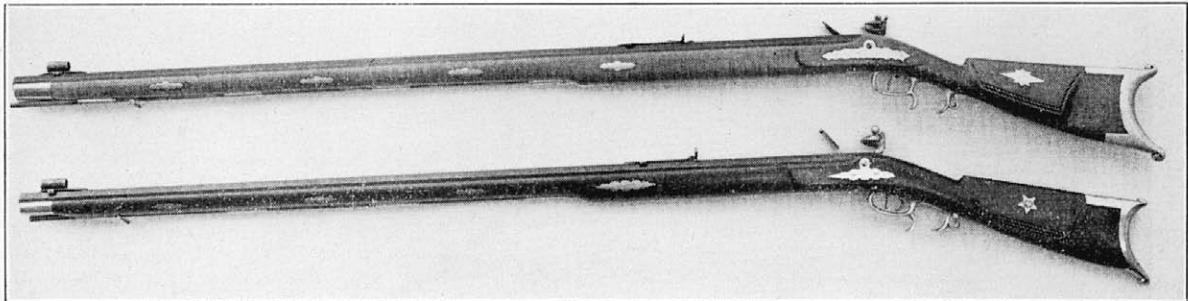
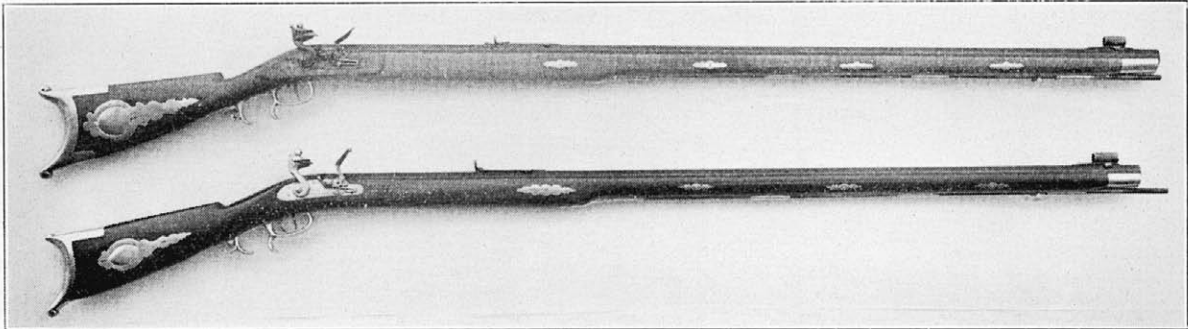
George Lafayette Brammer was born at Willowood, Lawrence county, Ohio, at the very outset of the Civil War; to be exact, on May 20, 1861. He began the work of repairing guns in 1883,—sixty-one years ago. He built his first complete gun, a squirrel rifle for his brother, in 1888. He

has repaired all sorts of arms from early matchlocks to modern automatics, but most of the pieces he has built from scratch have been hunting type rifles. In his declining years he veered from this policy sufficiently to manufacture four heavy match rifles, one for Dr. Horton of Santa Ana, California, another for a gentleman in Pittsburg whose name I do not know, one for his neighbor Earl W. Robinson in Chesapeake and the fourth for the writer. My gun was his last and that was finished in March, 1941, after five months of painstaking effort during spare time and odd moments between urgent repair jobs. I visited the little shop especially often during these five months and awaited with anxiety the completion of the 22½ pound flintlock match rifle which I expect to carry over to the National match at the Walter Cline range in Indiana this September. I was intrigued with the meticulous care that he exercised in the processing of every part that went into the making of the gun. Everything was hand made from the butt plate itself to the front sight on the barrel. He had seasoned the curly maple used in the stock for fifteen years. The mechanism of the lock works as smoothly as a Mortimer or Manton. Every screw and spring and inlay was carefully fashioned by hand.

(Continued on page 6)

Here are two views each of the last two muzzle loaders made by Brammer. The gun at the top in each view was made for Herman P. Dean, Huntington. The other was made for a neighbor of the maker, Earl W. Robinson, of Chesapeake. Mr. Dean's gun climaxed a career of sixty-one years gunsmithing by Brammer,

who has recently retired. This gun is a flintlock, calibre .392, rifled with seven grooves, overall length 68¼", barrel length 51" and weight 22½ pounds. The gun is made of curly maple and trimmed in brass, while Mr. Robinson's gun is also made of curly maple but trimmed in Monel Nickel.



UNCLE GEORGE BRAMMER

(Continued from page 4)

Because of his advancing years he didn't trust himself to forging the barrel but had that done by a friend and an arms mechanic of great ability, P. I. Spence, of Marietta, Ohio. Brammer made every other part of the gun and he rifled the barrel with his usual precision; so accurately was this done that on the trial shoot from the door of the gun shop the first three balls welded themselves together in the same hole at fifty yards. I have kept in my collection these welded balls and the block of wood into which they were fired in this sighting-in test. To me they are a memento of the kind of craftsmanship that all of us in the gun world revere.

In sixty-one years at the trade Brammer has maintained shops at only two locations, Huntington, West Virginia, and his present location at Chesapeake, Ohio. He started his career with the James Doyle and William Maupin Machine Shop, located on Second Avenue just below the present site of Oneil's Machine Shop. His first repair work was a job for George Collin, a Huntington silversmith. Uncle George worked at the gun trade in Huntington for fifty-four years, moved across the river to his present home in 1937. He was married to Carrie B. Gillingham, of Thivner, Gallia county, Ohio, in 1889. His wife, at the age of sixty-nine, is still his constant companion. They have one son, Cecil L. Brammer, of Huntington.

Brammer tells me that his gunsmithing career started sixty-one years ago when George Collin, the silversmith, brought a double-barrel muzzle loader percussion to the machine shop for the purpose of having the worn tubes renewed. He did a good job and the word got around and from that day in 1883 until this year of Our Lord 1944 he gave his attention to gunsmithing almost exclusively.

He has always been a shooter himself and that is perhaps the reason why he has been so successful in repairing and building arms that measured up to the exacting expectations of so many shooting men throughout the country. He prefers shooting a flintlock to a percussion because, he says, a flint insures steadier shooting. It is his contention that a percussion cap over the nipple causes a vacuum to be set up in the breech of the barrel, thus slowing up the charge, but, he explains, this is not true in the case of a flintlock on account of the fact that the touch hole serves as an outlet and prevents a vacuum in the breech. Ezekiel Baker and many others of the best early English makers evidently reasoned along the same course, for in some of their finest percussion arms you will find vent holes at the breech designed to avoid the

selfsame vacuum of which Brammer complains.

His favorite wood for gun stocks is curly maple and in this opinion he follows the footsteps of the early makers of the eighteenth century Pennsylvania rifle, commonly known as the "Kentucky." His second choice of wood is walnut and he has built some beautiful stocks in time from that wood. From inception to completion, Brammer estimates that it requires from sixty to seventy days solid time working to build a really fine and well decorated hunting or match rifle. He maintained no apprentice and every detail of the task fell to his own skilled hands.

In his younger days Uncle George hunted deer and bear from time to time for eighteen years in Allegheny county and Bath county, Virginia, and in Pocahontas county, West Virginia. Inasmuch as he is now a one hundred percent muzzle loading addict, he admits with some chagrin that his deer and bear hunting in the mountains was done chiefly with Winchester and Savage rifles. He observes with great pride that the pendulum of history is swinging back and that flintlocks and percussions are staging a deserved come-back among shooters. This trend has been noticeable ever since the formation of the National Muzzle Loading Rifle Association and the movement has been greatly accelerated during the present war, since ammunition for modern arms has been so difficult to procure.

In making brass and silver inlays for his stocks, Brammer has studied out various individual patterns and has never copied an ornament from another maker unless on specific order from the purchaser of a gun. His ornamentation is well conceived and shows good artistic taste. He has a name die for use on locks and barrels, but he also used individual die letters in placing his name on the pieces he has made. His craftsmanship is distinctive and can readily be recognized by arms men who are acquainted with his work. He has repaired and made guns for shooters in nearly every state in the Union, and he evidences pride in explaining that he has found nearly all shooters and collectors to be honest and foresquare gentlemen. He can count on the fingers of his hands the instances where any of his clientele has ever been crooked or taken unfair advantage in their dealings with him. He likes to thus compliment the arms fraternity, for he has always taken great pride in the type of men who make up the group he has served so faithfully and so well these many years.

If George Brammer has a speciality which has been outstanding in establishing him as a man among men in old-time gunsmithing, it is perhaps his ability to make a rifle barrel that will shoot straight. Incidentally, he favors a rifle twist of one

turn in forty-six inches, with Winchester type of lands. He has rifled, freshened out and recut barrels for hundreds of men all over the country who will testify that he has turned out many a worthwhile barrel from an impossible-looking tube of iron. His knowledge of ballistics was uncanny at times, all born of rugged experience only, for he studied nothing from Robbins or Mann or modern sporting and military ballisticians; but on frequent occasions many of us in the arms world have been confounded at his deep understanding of the problems of the shooter and the intricacies of the weapon.

However, when I asked him about his speciality he never mentioned barrels. His simple reply was: "I have always liked all types of the labor that goes into gunsmithing, and I have no special preference unless it be inlays and stock work. I also liked to attempt decorative engraving, but stock work and engraving do not go hand in hand with old age and so I have had to minimize these for many years past."

True, my friend Brammer is getting to be an old man, as years go. He has lived to see his home town of Huntington, West Virginia, grow from a struggling river village of a bare few hundred souls to a thriving manufacturing center of about eighty thousand people; nevertheless, he is still young in spirit and in spite of the serious ill health which so handicaps him today, he will still make optimistic forecasts of the unexplored future of muzzle loading shooting. He thinks that the revival of the front-feed gun is but in its infancy. Asked why, he will tell you that when a man shoots a muzzle loading flintlock he gets the thrill our forefathers felt when they tramped an untamed wilderness and leveled "Old Betsy" at a deer or bear to good advantage. He marvels at the smooth mechanisms of modern firearms. He admits the advantage of their range, firepower and repeating features,—but then he will lay an affectionate hand on a straight-shooting muzzle loader standing in the corner nearby, and say: "I'd take this kind every time."

Uncle George is something of an institution among those who know him best. His life typifies so many of the virtues we lovers of guns have come to look for in the makers of fine old arms. He has always been a good citizen in his community. The latchstring at his little shop has always hung on the outside for customers, friends and even for those who were merely curious. He has been accommodating to the extent that he would stop in the midst of an intricate rifling job to make some minor repair on an old shotgun for some youngster who wanted to go rabbit hunting in a hurry. I have even seen him leave the bench to repair a bicycle or put in order a lawn-

mower or some household appliance for a neighbor.

So as the curtain drops on the activities of this splendid old gentleman, I am made to realize that in this realm of gun collecting and firearms shooting it is not the pieces we acquire or the scores we make that count for the most in the scheme of things; rather it is the friendships that we form with such kindred characters, such finished artisans, such worthwhile citizens as my good friend and brother-in-arms to whom this appraisal is dedicated, George Lafayette Brammer, gunsmith.

MUZZLE BLASTS for July, 1944

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(Editor's Note: The article about George Brammer is made all the more interesting by the fact that a Brammer target rifle is in the collection of member Mark Herman, which by itself is not remarkable. But, due to the generosity of member Arlen Saunders, the AOLRC has a rifling machine from the Brammer Gun Shop. In addition, Brammer's freshening tools were donated to the AOLRC by the late Clarence "Gabby" Cather. These two gentlemen are owed a debt of gratitude for their generosity and the additional Ohio history they have provided to all of us.)

2nd Annual August Picnic

Our second annual picnic and shoot was a huge success. More than fifty people attended the outing in August at Centerburg, Ohio. A variety of sandwiches, condiments, and picnic supplies were furnished by AOLRC with unbelievably delicious covered dishes furnished by our members. Wonderful fellowship was enjoyed by everyone. After lunch the guns started banging. There were 20 or more shooters on line at the range. A few women and even some children participated in the shooting. Check out the pictures and also the list of the old guns that were fired. This has become a very popular event and will continue on the calendar for 2008 so save the 2nd weekend of August.

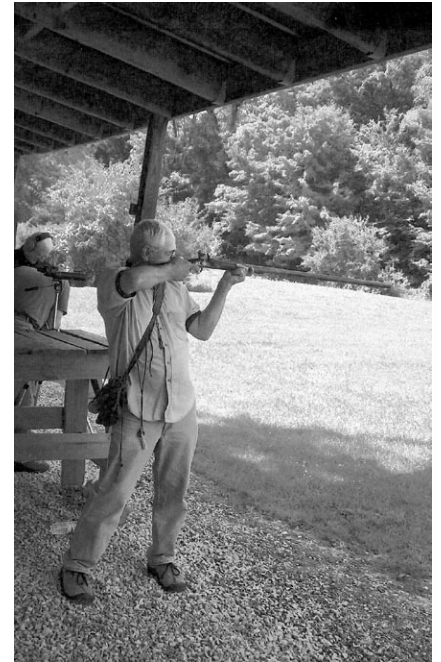
SHOOTER

Bob Hemmerly
 John Backovich
 Bill Hoover
 Dave Staley
 Charles Ebright
 Henery Overmeyer
 Tom Oakes
 Dick Harwood
 Colin Greene
 Milo Bragg
 Ron Yerian
 Chuck Morris
 Bob Qualk
 Jerry Wilson
 Jarnes Wilson
 Mark Herman
 Randy Brown
 Joe Mumper
 Eric Walter
 Karl Kuehn

GUNMAKER

P. Humbarger
 J. Clutz
 C. Siebert
 L. Biddle
 A. Stilgenbauer
 Overmeyer
 G. Humphreys
 P. Kane
 ?
 M. Bragg
 D. L. Ackley
 C. P. Gregory
 J. Clutz
 D. Blanchard
 P. A. Reinhart
 Herman Peter
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 Paul Mumper
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 Karl Kuehn







Ladies of AOLRC News



The year 2008 has arrived and our spring show is quickly approaching. Our auxiliary has been idle but now it is time to kick ourselves into gear and make plans for the spring show.

Our Friday night gathering will continue to have the carving station for sandwiches, chips, salads, etc. We think it is a great time to not only set up tables and do a little trading, but it has also become a great evening of fellowship.

For our Saturday activities, we have been contacted by Jean Yost, from the Sons of the American Revolution in Marietta. They are sponsoring a 12 day event of history and memories for Washington County. Each day from March 28 until April 8 they have planned activities. Campus Martius Museum will be open with free admission. Mr. Yost wants our members to participate in any and/or all activities they will be sponsoring. On Saturday in Belpre, Ohio they will have Tartan Day Scottish History at the Farmer Castle Museum.

We thought this would be an outing for the women. There will also be areas to tour in Belpre. We will combine this with a lunch and then carpool to Belpre.

On Sunday they are sponsoring a pioneer church service at the First Congregational Church on Front Street in Marietta. This might also be an activity in which our members might want to participate.

No decision has been made as of yet for the Saturday night speaker. We will be sharing ideas with the board. Hopefully we can find someone to interest us all.

We will be contacting those who volunteered to work on advertising for the spring show. We want to get the word out and hopefully increase attendance.

We are looking forward to seeing everyone the first weekend in April. Contact Sandy Frazer, Judy Herman, or Judy Yerian if you have any suggestions or concerns.



A Note about Dues:

Payment of 2008 membership dues must be made by April 1, 2008.